

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
EUGENE DISTRICT
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW
West Eugene Wetlands Parking Area
Maintenance/Improvement
CE-03-31

Background

The West Eugene Wetland Office site is experiencing greater and greater use. As such the parking area needs to be improved to accommodate more vehicles and provide for an all weather surface.

Montia howellii, a BLM tracking species, is known to occur in the parking lot, particularly the portion of the lot where the project disturbance would occur. Presence of this annual species seems to be enhanced by mild disturbance activities such a vehicle passage, parking, and occasional grading of the parking lot. This species is an annual and has already gone to seed for the year. Stockpiling and redistribution of the surface material after the lot is graveled is a viable means of insuring the persistence of the species .

Proposed Action

The proposed action is to distribute additional gravel across the existing parking surface. Prior to this however, the first several inches of surface material where the Montia howellii population has been identified and the seed located, will be stockpiled. Gravel will be spread across the project area, graded and compacted. At this point the stockpiled surface material would then be redistributed across its previous extent. Particular attention will be paid to the preservation of topological depressions which contain adequate fine materials, which the species depends on. On-site botanical expertise will insure that this action will be executed with the intent of preserving the species.

Decision

It is my decision to approve the Proposed Action and to instruct the Road Maintenance Crew to work in conjunction with the on-site botanist/specialist to accomplish this work.

Rationale

The Proposed Action qualifies as a categorical exclusion as described in Departmental Categorical Exclusions (516 DM 2, Appendix 1) (1.7) "Routine and continuing government business, including such things as ... maintenance and replacement activities having limited context and intensity, e.g., limited size and magnitude or short term effects. The proposed action does not meet any of the exception criteria and therefore an Environmental Assessment (EA) is not necessary.

Prepared by: /s/ Jay Ruegger
Acting Multiple Resource Staff Lead

Date: 5/21/03

Approved by: /s/ Steven Calish

Date: 5/21/03

Field Manager, Siuslaw R. A.

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CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW
Exception Criteria Review Checklist

Proposed Action: West Eugene Parking Area Maintenance/Improvement(CE-03-31)

Review the proposed action against each of the 10 criteria listed below. If the project meets one or more of the criteria, it is an exception from categorical exclusion and **MUST** be analyzed in an EA or EIS. To qualify as a Categorical Exclusion the proposed action may not meet any of the criteria. If the criterion does not apply, indicate "Not Applicable." Any mitigation measures (such as contract stipulations or terms and conditions on permits) necessary to ensure that the proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion should be identified at the bottom of the page.

Exception Criteria		Comments
1.	Have significant adverse effects on public health or safety	None
2.	Have adverse effects on unique resources (i.e., parks, recreation, refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers, wetlands, flood plains, etc.)	None
3.	Have highly controversial environmental effects	None
4.	Have highly uncertain environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks	None
5.	Establish a precedent that could result in significant impacts	None
6.	Be directly related to other actions having cumulatively significant effects	None
7.	Have adverse effects on cultural or historical resources	None
8.	Have adverse effects on species listed or proposed as threatened or endangered or have adverse effect on designated critical habitat for these species.	None
9.	Require compliance with E.O. 11988 (flood plain management), E.O. 11990 (protection of wetlands), or the Fish & Wildlife Coordination Act	None
10.	Threaten to violate Federal, State, Local or Native American law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment	None
Mitigation measures needed to qualify as CE: None required		

Reviewed By: /s/ Gary Hoppe
Gary Hoppe, Planner

Date: 5/21/03

The above mitigation measures have been adopted and will be implemented.

Area Manager: /s/ Steven Calish
Field Manager, Siuslaw R. A.

Date: 5/21/03